Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful attention given the present matter.

Claims 1, 2, 5-10, 22-27, 33-36, and 40-41 have been allowed. Claims 3 and 4 are allowable subject to correcting clerical errors. Claims 11-21, 28-32 and 37-39 presently stand rejected.

In order to facilitate passage to issuance of claims 1-10, 22-27, 33-36, 40-41, and 42-51, rejected claims 11-21, 28-32 and 37-39 have been cancelled. No attempt is being made at this time to address substantively the rejections made in the present Office Action to rejected claims 11-21, 28-32 and 37-39. Assuming the allowable claims pass to issuance, Applicant expects to pursue the merits of the rejected claims in a continuing patent filing.

Regarding the §112 paragraph 2 rejection of <u>claims 3 and 4</u>, these claims have been amended to correct the clerical error noted by the Examiner. Please note, <u>claims 24 and 25</u> have also been similarly corrected. Although claims 24 and 25 were not subject to a §112 rejection, upon further review of the present claims, claims 24 and 25 had a similar problem and thus have also been amended to address their clerical error.

New claims 42-51 have been added, these claims are propagated signal claim variants of allowed claims 1-10. No new subject matter has been introduced and it is submitted they are allowable for at least the reason as for claims 1-10.

Conclusion

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1-10, 22-27, 33-36, 40-41, and 42-51 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 13, 2005

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